

# IPAC Activity Description

## Name of Activity

Cognitive Science Video Hour

## Contributor

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## Brief Description of the Activity

Sponsored by the Cognitive Science Program, the Cognitive Science Video Hour is an activity that is designed to bring together students and faculty interested in the scientific interdisciplinary study of the mind for the purpose of viewing videos that relate to cognitive science. The video hour is intended to serve as an informal mechanism for establishing common ground among students and faculty who are interested in the study of the mind. This common ground, together with provocative questions that surely will emerge from the video presentations, will promote discussions of substance among the participants. While much of the hour will be devoted to actually watching videos, at least some of the hour will be reserved for discussion about ideas pertaining to the videos that are presented.

## Interdisciplinary Nature of the Activity

Cognitive science is, by definition, an interdisciplinary endeavor. Its goal is to integrate relevant ideas from computer science, psychology, philosophy, linguistics, anthropology, biology, and other fields in order to produce enhanced understandings of mental phenomena. By presenting videos that represent a variety of perspectives, methodologies, and approaches to the study of the mind, the Cognitive Science Video Hour will achieve a highly interdisciplinary flavor.

## Relationship to Interdisciplinarity at Oswego

It is anticipated that students and faculty from the contributing disciplines to cognitive science, as well as cognitive science students and faculty, per se, will attend the Cognitive Science Video Hour and find it to be an enriching experience. Furthermore, the individuals that will be featured in the videos will represent a diversity of disciplines, including biology (Dawkins), psychology (Pinker), linguistics (Chomsky), philosophy (Dennett), computer science (Minsky), human computer interaction (Norman) and art (Levin) and music (Patel). That all of these individuals will be addressing research that informs cognitive science highlights the significance

of an interdisciplinary approach to addressing hard problems. Although modest in scope and casual in nature, this video hour represents yet another sign of interdisciplinary life on campus.

## **IPAC Support**

Use of the conference room Thursday afternoons from 3:30 to 5:30.

Advertisement of the Cognitive Science Video Hour.

## **Relevant Dates**

S13 F13 S14 F14 S15